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NEWHAVEN PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PORT MEDICAL OFFICER

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FOR THE YEAR ENDING

---

31st December, 1947.

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Public Health Department,  
Lewes House,  
Lewes, Sussex.

8th March, 1948.



NEWHAVEN PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING :-

31st December, 1947.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NEWHAVEN PORT HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Madam and Gentlemon,

I beg to submit my Annual Report, as Port Medical Officer of Newhaven, for the year 1947.

Newhaven, chiefly a passenger port, has shown a remarkable increase in both inward and outward passenger traffic during the year under review, when compared with the previous year, 1946. The figures were - inward passengers 108,583 and outward passengers 111,096. For the previous year the figures were, inward passengers 60,585, and outward passengers 65,821.

The total number of aliens who arrived at the Port in 1947 was 31,636, as against 25,480 in 1946. On examination of records it is found that the average annual number of inward aliens for the ten-year period 1929 to 1938 was 33,553. In the years 1929, 1930, 1931 and 1932 the numbers of aliens entering Newhaven were 25,734, 26,833, 26,191 and 21,508 respectively.

One of the chief duties of a Port Health Authority is that of prevention of the importation of infectious disease. During 1947 no vessel entering the Port reported having, or having had, during the voyage any infectious disease aboard, and no cases of infectious diseases were found amongst the inward passengers or in crews by the Port Medical Officer, or by Dr. a'Brook during the medical inspection of aliens.

The prevention of the importation of rat plague is another of the chief duties of the Authority. The usual preventive measures in this direction were carried out during the year and no signs of rat plague were observed.

Sanitary conditions in connection with the hygiene of crews and passengers on vessels which entered the Port in 1947 were good generally. During inspection of 252 vessels concerning the hygiene of crews' spaces, three structural defects through wear and tear, and nine nuisances relating to dirt, vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health, were found.

Six samples of water taken from the Denton Well which supplies the east side of the Port were submitted to chemical and bacteriological examinations during the year. All showed that this water supply was of a high degree of purity, with one exception. Regular samples from the Newhaven and Seaford Water Company's supply to the west side of the Port and to shipping revealed that this water was uniformly of excellent quality and purity.

Besides having regained a good deal of the passenger traffic during the year, the Port witnessed some increase in both imports and exports. The principal imports during the year were, coal, coke, patient fuel; building and road-making materials other than timber; fruit and vegetables; iron and steel manufactures; oil and spirit (mineral and motor); timber, and other commodities, in all totalling 189,427 tons, as against a total of 114,550 tons of imports during 1946.

The principal foreign port from which vessels arrived in 1947 was Dieppe. Other foreign ports were Antwerp, Boulogne, Casablanca, Emden, Ostend and Rotterdam.

Exports totalled 8,434 tons in 1947 and comprised iron and steel ore; iron and steel manufactures thereof; oil and spirit (mineral and motor), and also other commodities. The number of motor vehicles exported during the year was 8,888. In the previous year a total of 1,334 tons was exported, comprising iron and steel; grain and seed; as well as other commodities. The number of motor vehicles exported during 1946 was 2,500.



Duties under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937, were carried out during the year under review, in which 19,547 tons of fruit and vegetables were imported ex-Dieppe. Coastwise imported potatoes amounted to 19,350 tons; North African potatoes to 225 tons, and North African fruit and vegetables to 570 tons.

The difficulty experienced at some ports in preventing persons from boarding vessels before they are cleared has not been encountered at Newhaven.

My thanks are due to Dr. a'Brook, the officials of the Southern Railway Company, of the Home Office and of the C.I.D. for their courtesy and ready help during the year. I am particularly indebted to Mr. Harrison for his support, and I am grateful to you for the help and encouragement I have received during the year.

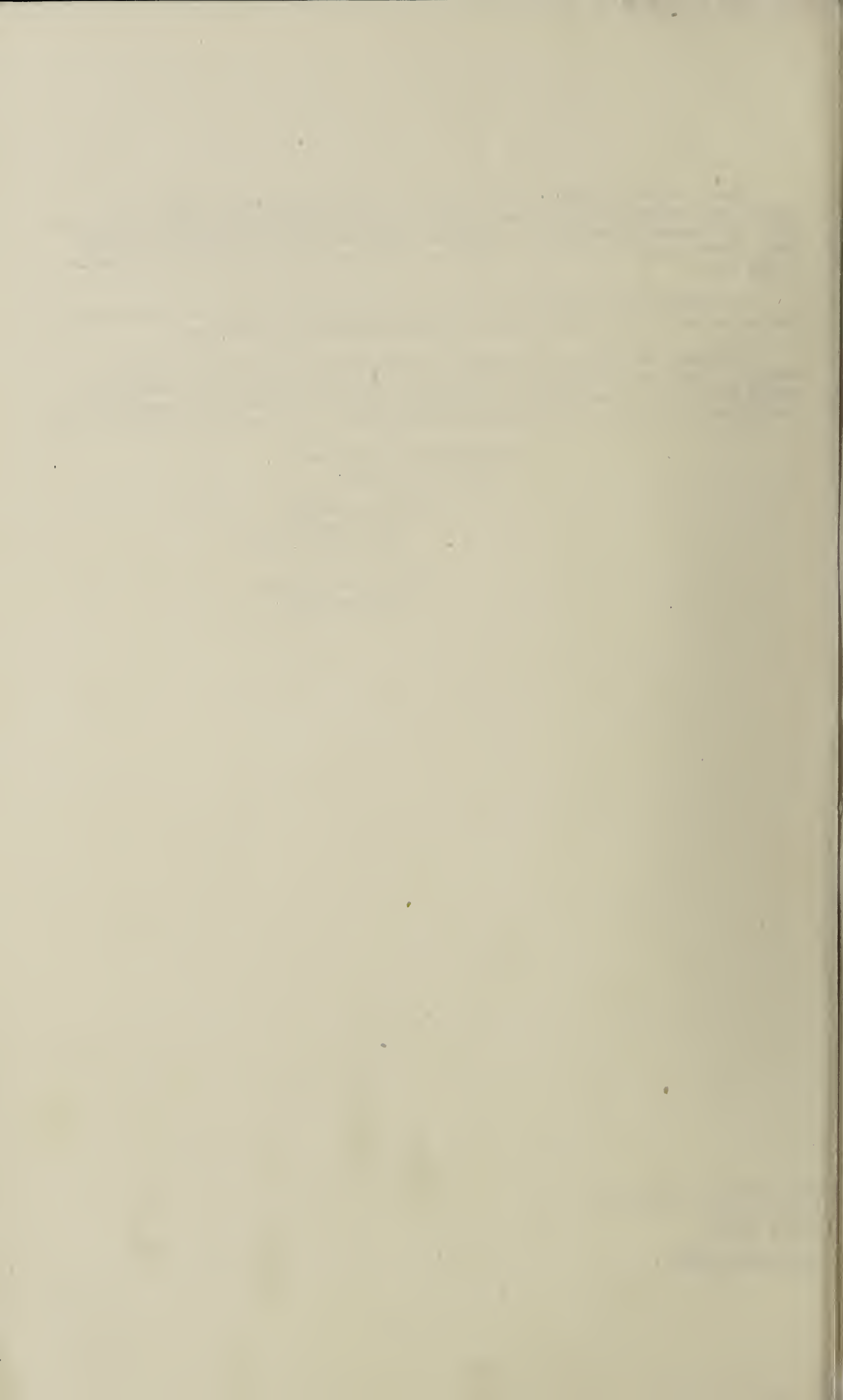
I am, Madam and Gentlemen,  
Yours obediently,

G.M.D.S.B. LOBBAN.  
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
Fell. R.S.I. etc.

Port Health Officer,  
Newhaven Port.

Public Health Department,  
Lewes House,  
Lewes, Sussex.

8th March, 1948.



1. AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT DURING THE YEAR

TABLE "A"

	Number	Tons	No. Inspected by the    by the Medic-    Sanit- al        ary Offi-    Inspec- cer      tor.		Number Repor- ted to be de- fect- ive.	Number of vessels on which defects were remo- died.	Number of vessels on which defects were found & report- ed to M. of T. Survey- ors	Number of vessels report- ed as having, or hav- ing had during voyage infect- ious disease on board
Foreign								
Steamers	355	310,405	20	44	-	Nil	Nil	Nil
Motor	225	70,480	-	45	2	"	"	"
Sailing	-	-	-	-	-	"	"	"
Fishing	7	80	-	2	-	"	"	"
Total Foreign	587	380,965	20	91	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Coast- Wise								
Steamers	575	88,097	2	86	10	7	Nil	Nil
Motor	186	25,929	-	59	-	-	"	"
Sailing	3	223	-	-	-	-	"	"
Fishing	2,379	19,063	-	18	-	-	"	"
Total Coast- Wise *	3,143	133,312	2	163	10	7	Nil	Nil
Total Foreign & Coast- Wise	3,730	514,277	22	254	12	7	Nil	Nil

\* Includes local fishing vessels and small craft.

Additional

Yachts

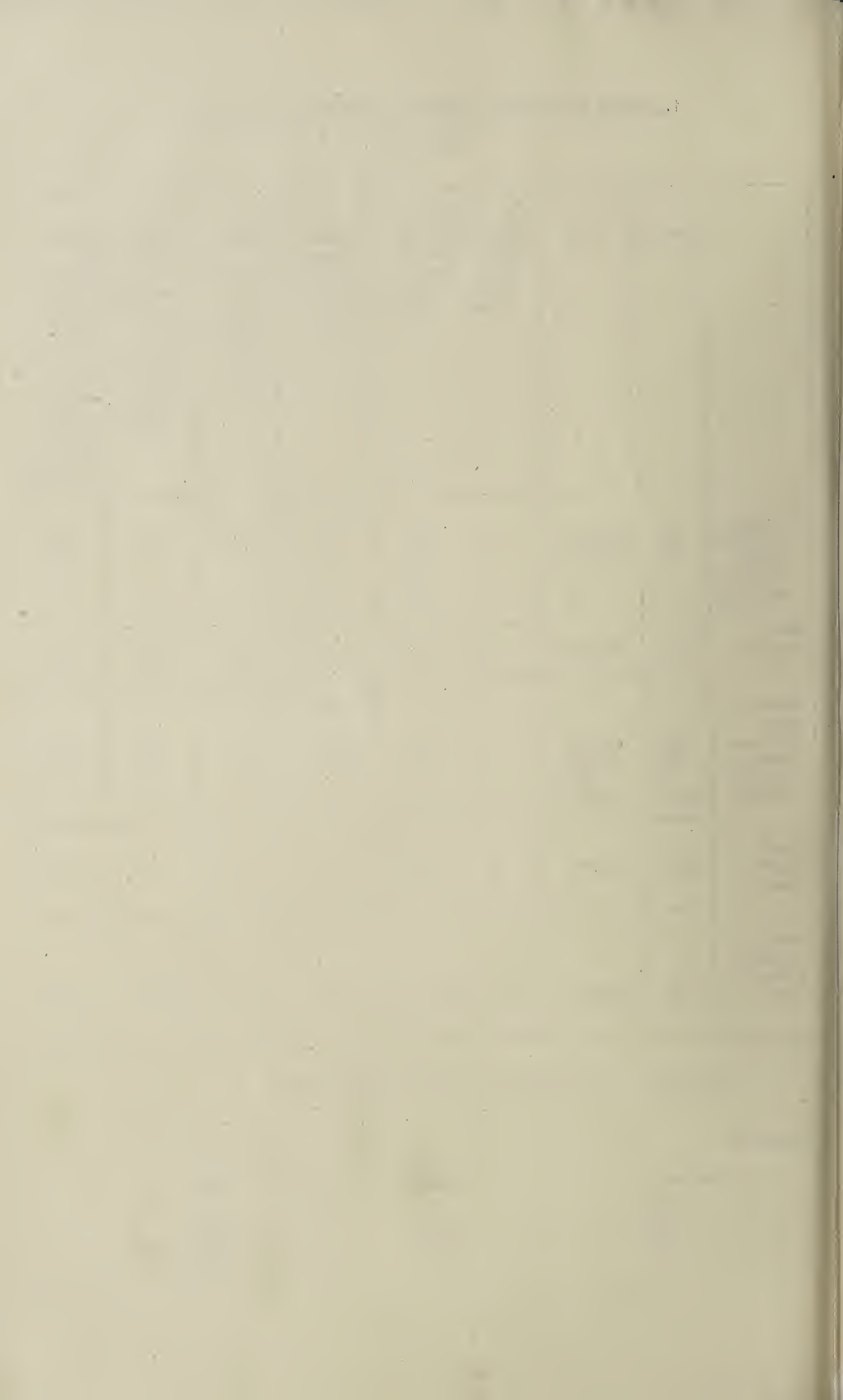
Number

Tons

Motor )  
Steam )  
Sail

2,765  
70

13,862  
395



11. CHARACTER OF TRADE OF PORT.

TABLE "B"

(a) PASSENGER TRAFFIC DURING THE YEAR.

Number of Passengers	1st Class	2nd Class	3rd Class	Trans-migrants
Inwards	* 13,061	19,882	* 75,640	Nil
Outwards	* 14,785	21,307	* 75,004	Nil

\* Includes Service Personnel.

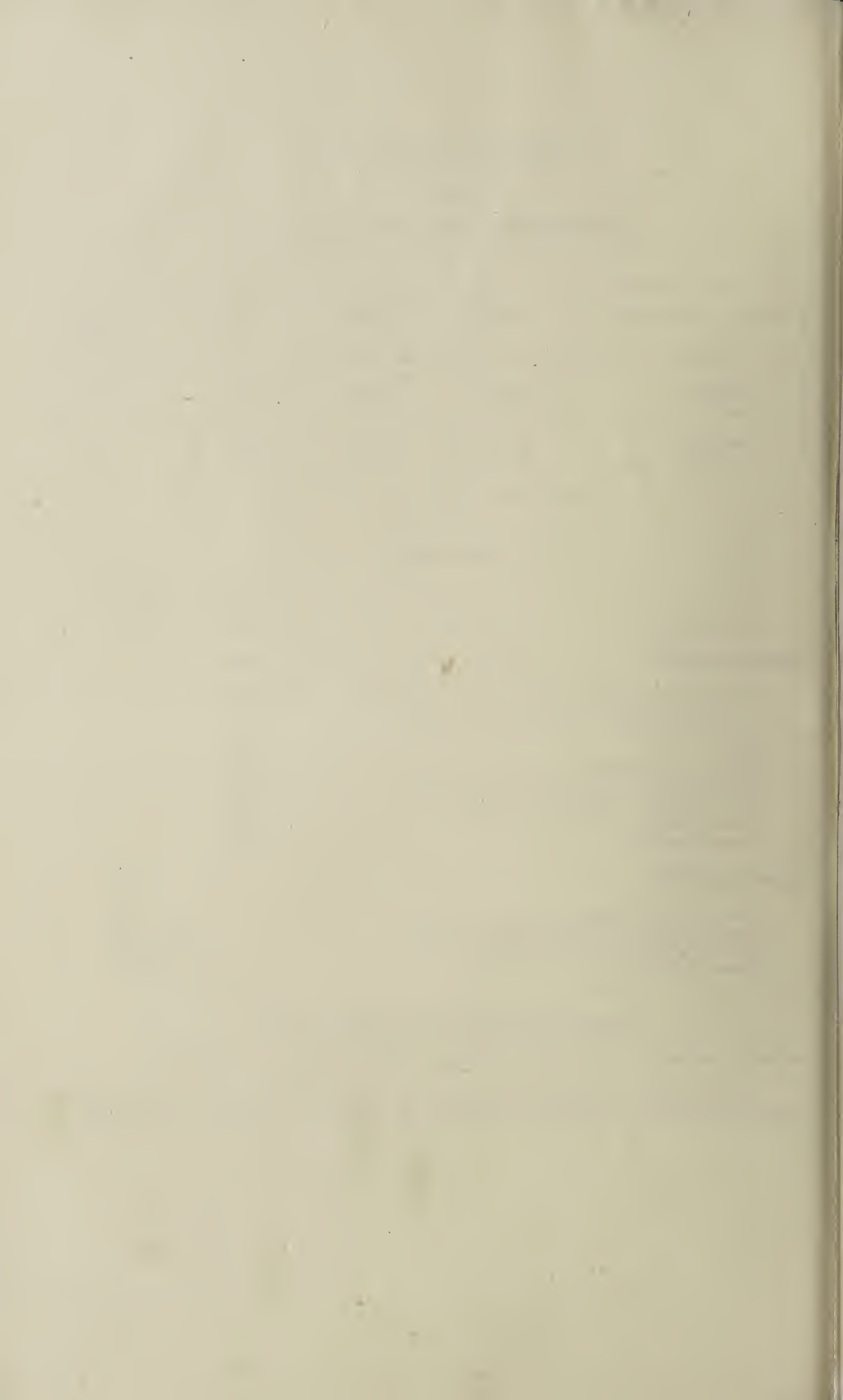
(b) Cargo Traffic.

	<u>Imports</u>	<u>Exports</u>
Motor Vehicles	2,586	8,888
<u>Principal Imports</u>	<u>Tons</u>	
Coal, Coke and Patent Fuel	111,553	
Building and road-making material, other than timber	15,091	
Fish	187	
Fruit and Vegetables	39,565	
Iron and steel, and manufactures thereof	1,056	
Oil and Spirit (Mineral and Motor)	7,481	
Other Timber	2,729	
Other Commodities	11,765	
<u>Principal Exports</u>		<u>Tons</u>
Iron and other Ores		2
Iron and Steel and manufactures thereof		385
Oil and Spirit (Mineral and Motor)		2,000
Other Commodities		6,097

(c) Foreign Ports from which Vessels Arrive

Antwerp; Boulogne; Casablanca; Dieppe; Emden; Ostend; and Rotterdam

The principal foreign port from which vessels arrive is Dieppe; 298 passenger arrivals from that port alone, in addition to a number of general cargo vessels.



MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

Annual Return by the Medical Inspector of Aliens for the  
year ended 31st December, 1947.

	Transmigrants	Land Necessary for adequate medical examination	Suffering from acute infectious disease	Physically incapacitated	Undesirable for medical reasons	Lunatic, Idiot or M.D.	Number subjected to detailed examination by the Medical Inspector	Number inspected by the Medical Inspector.	Total
(a) Total number of Aliens landing at the Port	-	-	-	-	1	-	418	31,551	31,551
(b) Aliens refused permission to land by Immigration Officer	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	85	
(c) Transmigrants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total Aliens arriving at the Port	-	-	-	-	1	-	419	31,636	31,552

Total number of vessels carrying Alien passengers	...	...	...	...	303
Number of vessels dealt with by the Medical Inspector	...	...	...	...	298

## 111. WATER SUPPLY

(1) Source of Supply:

(a) The Port      East Side - Southern Railway Well at Denton.  
                         West Side - Newhaven & Scaford Water Company.

(b) Shipping      Ditto.      Ditto.      Ditto.

(2) Hydrants and Hosonipes:

These are under the care of an employee of the Southern Railway Company. Before any tanks are filled a certain quantity of water is run to waste. The water itself is subject to chlorination.

Six samples of water from the Southern Railway Well at Denton, and from the mains, were submitted to the Public Analyst during 1947, for bacteriological and chemical analysis. These proved to be, with one exception, of the highest quality.

The water supply of the Newhaven & Seaford Water Company is subjected to regular tests and is uniformly good.



IV. PORT HEALTH REGULATIONS, 1933 & 1945.

(1) Arrangements for dealing with Declarations of Health:

Declarations of Health are collected and examined immediately on arrival of a vessel. If by H.M. Customs Officer they are forwarded to the Public Health Department.

(2) Boarding of Vessels on arrival:

All vessels from outside Home Trade limits are boarded as soon as they are moored. Any vessel which has come from an infected port receives special attention, and is boarded by the Medical Officer of Health.

(3) Notification to the Authority of Inward Vessels requiring special attention (wireless messager, land signal stations, information from pilots, Customs Officers, etc.).

In regard to vessels arriving from infected ports, notification is sent immediately to the Public Health Department at Newhaven; or if the vessels arrive outside normal working hours, the information is sent direct to the Sanitary Inspector for his attention. Any matter on which information is required is transmitted to the Sanitary Inspector.

(4) Mooring Stations designated under Article 10:

- (a) within the docks ) There are no specified mooring stations at
- (b) outside the docks ) Newhaven Port.

(5) Particulars of any Standing Exemptions from the Provisions of Article 14:

There are no standing exemptions from the provisions of Article 14.

(6) Experience of Working of Article 16:

No cases of improper boarding of vessels previously to granting of pratique have occurred.

(7) What, if any, arrangements have been made for:-

(a) premises and waiting rooms for medical examination: The Southern Railway Company have put at the disposal of the Port Health Officer part of the shed used for customs examination. It is hoped that other arrangements will be made when labour and materials become available.

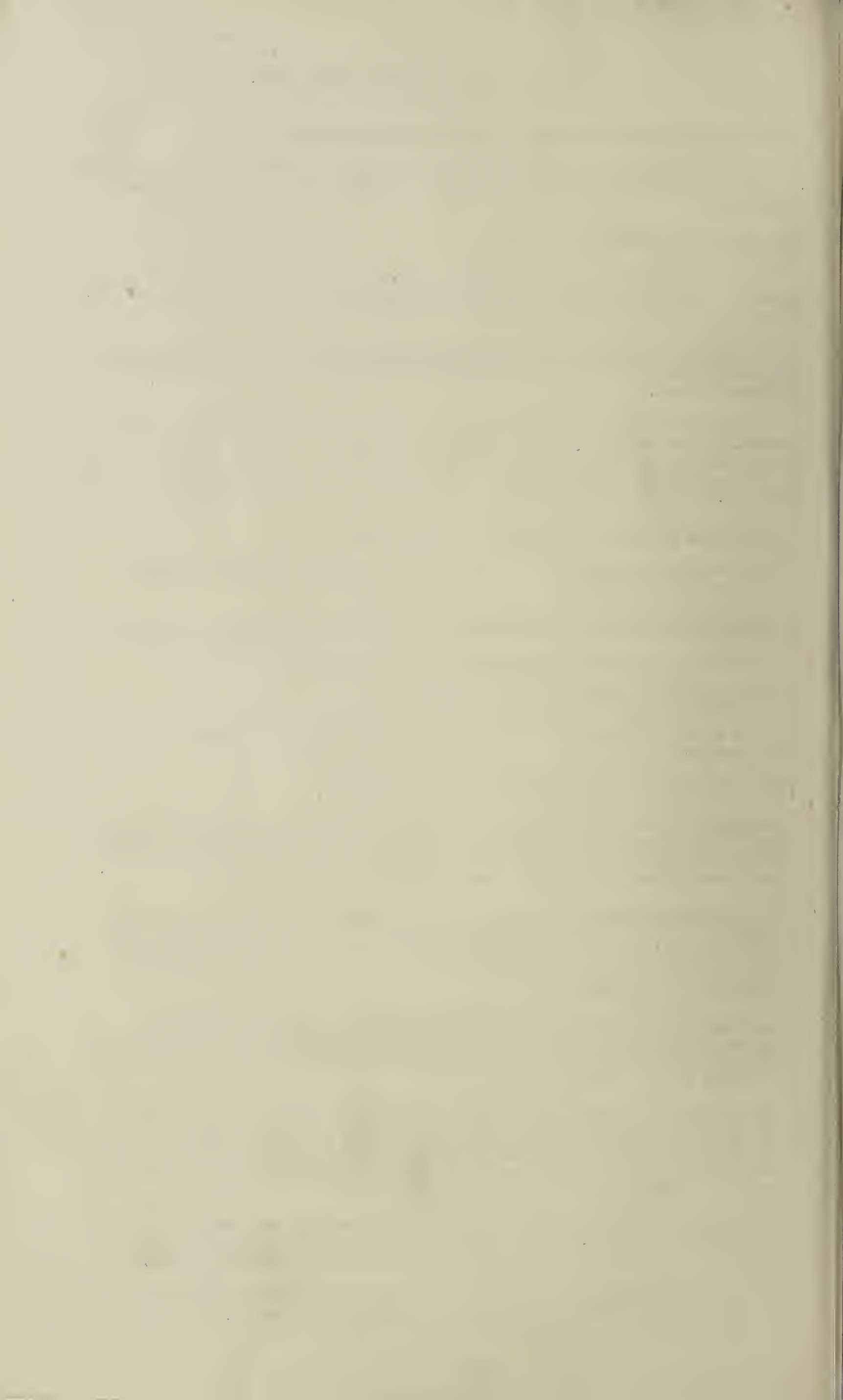
(b) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, and clothing, and other articles: There are disinfection stations on the East Quay. Steam disinfection can also be undertaken at the Newhaven Isolation Hospital, where a supply of spare clothing for both males and females is kept. D.D.T. and blowers are also available.

(c) Premises for the temporary accommodation of persons for whom such accommodation is required for the purpose of the Regulations: Accommodation is available at the Lewes, Newhaven and Seaford Isolation Hospital, Newhaven, whenever such is required.

(d) Hospital Accommodation available for Plague; Cholera; Yellow Fever; Smallpox, and other infectious diseases: In the case of Smallpox, patients can be admitted to the East Sussex Western Joint Hospital at Chailoy. Any other infectious diseases are admitted to the Lewes, Newhaven and Seaford Isolation Hospital at Newhaven.

(e) Ambulance Transport: The Brighton County Borough Ambulance is used in the case of Smallpox, and the ambulance from the Lewes, Newhaven and Seaford Isolation Hospital in the case of any other infectious disease.

(f) Supervision of Cases etc: Contacts can be dealt with by sending them to the Lewes, Newhaven and Seaford Isolation Hospital in Newhaven. Each



person landing in Newhaven by sea voyage is handed a printed card giving instructions to notify the local Medical Officer of Health if the holder of the card begins to develop an infectious disease, or suspects development. In special circumstances, immigrants may be instructed by the Medical Officer to report on arrival in the district of a local authority to the Medical Officer of Health of the local authority.

(8) Arrangements for the bacteriological and pathological examination of rats for plague.

These arrangements can be carried out by the Clinical Research Association, Hilton's Annexe, South Road, Haywards Heath.

(9) Arrangements for other bacteriological and pathological examinations.

These can also be carried out by the Clinical Research Association, Hilton's Annexe, South Road, Haywards Heath.

(10) Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under international arrangements, including in-patient treatment; also as to the steps taken to make facilities known to seamen.

The Masters of all vessels are requested to report any case of venereal disease occurring amongst their crews, when instructions can then be given as to treatment at the Brighton Clinic.

(11) Arrangements for the Internment of the Dead:

When death occurs on board a ship at Newhaven Port, the body can be removed to the mortuary at Newhaven Cemetery, and arrangements made for internment.

(12) Other matters, if any, requiring or receiving attention:

Should any other matters requiring attention be brought to the notice of the Sanitary Inspector, they are dealt with immediately.

TABLE "C"

Cases of Infectious Sickness landed from Vessels.

Disease	Number of Cases during the year.		Number of Vessels concerned	Average number of cases for previous 5 years
	Passengers	Crew		
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1.0

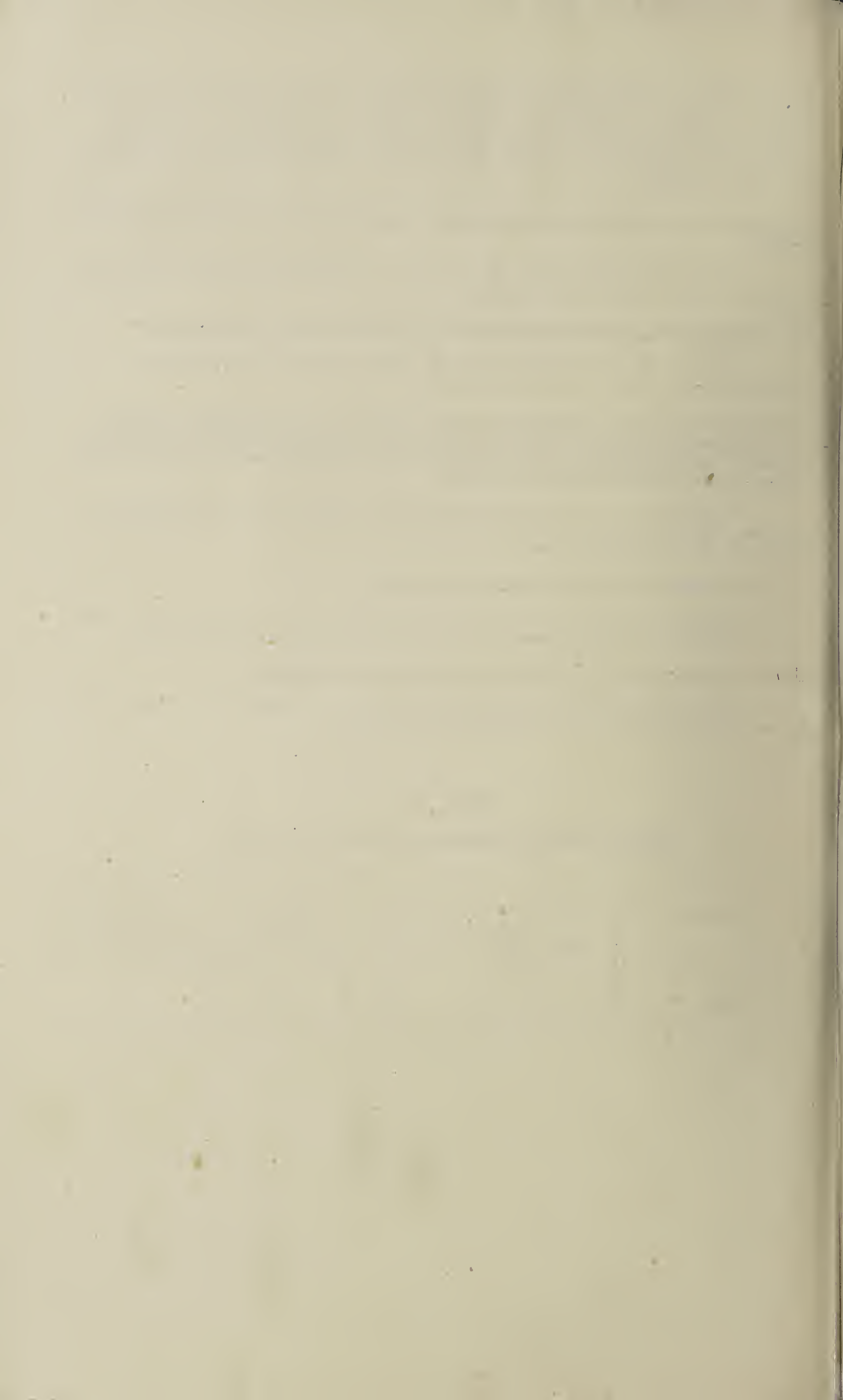


TABLE "D"

Cases of Infectious Sickness occurring on Vessels during the voyage but disposed of prior to arrival.

Dis. Case	Number of Cases during the year Passengers                  Crew	Number of Vessels Concerned	Average number of case for previous 5 years.
Nil	Nil                  Nil	Nil	Nil

If any cases of Plague; Cholera; Yellow Fever; Smallpox or Typhus occurred, or if plague-infested rats were discovered, or if any severe outbreak of Malaria occurred on an arriving ship during the year, a short account should be given of the steps taken:

There is nothing to report under this heading for the year 1947.

#### V. MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST RODENTS:

##### (1) Steps taken for Detection of Rodent Plague:

- (a) in ships in the Port:                  Vessels are examined for rats.
- (b) on quays, wharves, warehouses, etc., in the vicinity of the Port:                  Any mortality, other than poison, would be suspect.

##### (2) Measures taken to prevent the passage of rats between ships and the shore:

Rat guards are required to be fitted to all foreign trade vessels, and any vessel found to be rat infested, is required to withdraw gangways at night.

##### (3) Methods of deratisation of:

- (a) Ships: If search reveals any infestation, trapping and poisoning are available. Southern Railway vessels are serviced by a firm of contractors.
- (b) Premises in the vicinity of the docks or quays: The dock undertaking employ a Servicing Firm (Messrs. Ratsouris) who inspect, bait and poison. A Company's Rat Catcher is also employed.

##### (4) Measures taken for the detection of rat prevalence in ships and on shore:

- (a) on ships: The Sanitary Inspector examines where possible.
- (b) on shore: The same remarks apply as under heading 3 (b) in regard to the Servicing Firm.

##### (5) Rat-Proofing:

- (a) To what extent are docks, wharves, warehouses etc., rat proof? The docks and warehouses, owing to their construction, being mainly of wood, are not in any degree rat-proof.

##### (b) Action taken to extend rat-proofing:

- (i) in ships: Ships using the port are mainly cross channel packets and colliers and have a fairly high degree of rat proofing. If any excessive harbourage is discovered, the Master of the ship is required to abate the same.
- (ii) on shore: As in 5 (a) the wood decking, wood buildings, open platforms are almost impossible to proof.



# RATS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR

TABLE "E"

## (I) ON VESSELS

Number of Rats	JAN:	FEB:	MAR:	APR:	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG:	SEP:	OCT:	NOV:	DEC:
Black	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Species )												
not re- )	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-
corded )												
Examined	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infected												
with												
Plague												
Total in the year - species not recorded - 4 (figure supplied by Messrs. Ratsouris)												

TABLE "F"

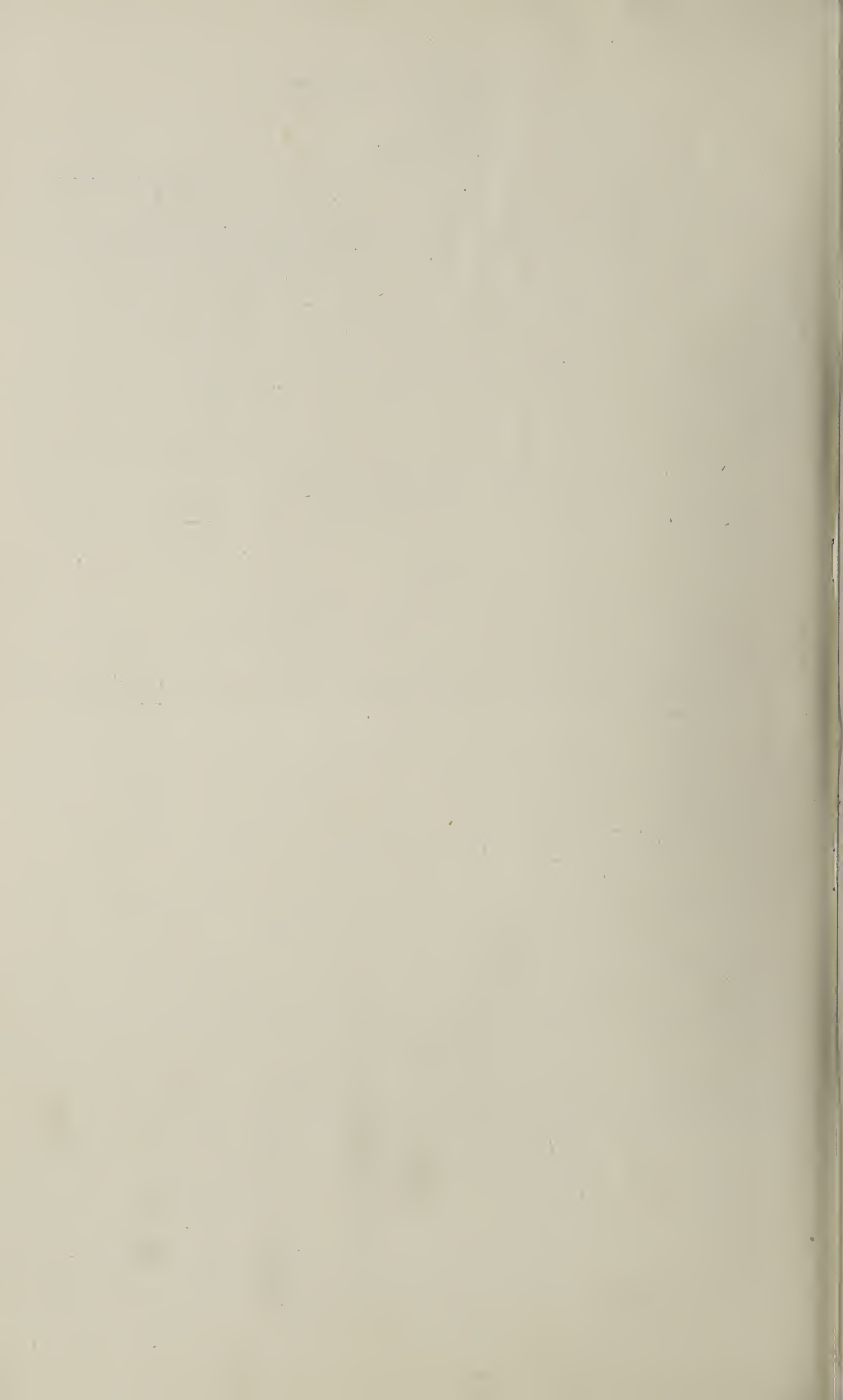
## (2) IN DOCKS, QUAYS, WHARVES AND WAREHOUSES \*

Number of Rats	JAN:	FEB:	MAR:	APR:	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG:	SEP:	OCT:	NOV:	DEC:
Black	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Species												
not re-	-	60	-	-	78	-	-	70	-	-	45	-
corded												
Examined	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infected												
with												
plague												
Total in the year - species not recorded - 253 (figures supplied by Messrs. Ratsouris)												
* Under the Control of the Southern Railway Company.												

TABLE "G"

Measures of Rat Destruction on Plague "infected" or "suspected" Vessels, or Vessels from Plague infected ports arriving in the Port during the year.

Total number of such Vessels Arriving. 1.	Number of such Vessels fumigated by SO2. 2.	Number of Rats Killed 3.	Number of such Vessels fumigated by HCN. 4.
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil



Number of Rats Killed. 5.	No. of such Vessels on which trapping, poisoning etc., were employed. 6.	Number of Rats Killed. 7.	No. of such Vessels on which measures of rat destruction were not carried out 8.
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

TABLE "H" \*

Deratisation Certificates and Deratisation Exemption Certificates issued during the Year.

\* Nowhaven Port has not been approved by the Minister of Health for the issue of these certificates.

VI. HYGIENE OF CREWS' SPACES

TABLE "J"

CLASSIFICATION OF NUISANCES.

Nationality of Vessel.	Number Inspected during the Year.	Defects of original construction	Structural Defects through wear and tear.	Dirt, Vermin & other conditions prejudicial to health.
British	182	Nil	1	9
Other Nations	72	Nil	2	Nil



## VII. FOOD INSPECTION.

### 1. Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937:

These Regulations have been carried out and the following foods have been landed at Newhaven:-

<u>Ex-Dieppe</u>	<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Tons</u>
	Onions	8,480
	Pears	2,812
	Peaches	2,241
	Plums	1,366
	Citrus Fruit	913
	Cauliflowers	529
	Nuts	452
	Tomatoes	438
	Cherrios	339
	Cabbage	334
	Grapes	315
	Dates	313
	Carrots	196
	Peas	163
	Blackcurrants (Spoton)	157
	Various Salads	112
	Melons	76
	Lettuce	76
	Asparagus	70
	Turnips	47
	Cucumbers	37
	Spinach	32
	Red Currants	21
	Apricots	14
	Pomegranates	8
	Potatoes	6
		<hr/>
		19,547
	Potatoes (Coastwise)	19,350
	Potatoes (North African)	225
	Fruit and Vegetables (North African)	570
		<hr/>
	TOTAL	39,692
		<hr/>

### 11. Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1926 and Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925 - 1940.

It has not been necessary to take any action under these Regulations.

### 111. Shell-fish. Information respecting any shell-fish bods or layings within the jurisdiction of the P.S.A. stating whether they are in the opinion of the Medical Officer liable to pollution. Report of any action taken under the Public Health (Shell-Fish) Regulations, 1934, or the Food and Drugs Act, 1938:

There are no shell-fish bods or layings within the jurisdiction of the Port Sanitary Authority.

### IV. Number of samples of food examined by:-

(a) Bacteriologist	...	...	Nil
(b) Analyst	...	...	Nil

G.H.D.S.B. LOBBAN.

